

# THE ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## SECTION 6

### Individual School Histories

Updated 2018

<b>District Schools in Operation</b>	<b>Opened</b>
Eugene Field Elementary School	1917
Lafayette High School	1917
Pershing Elementary School	1925
Bode Middle School	1927
Hyde Elementary School	1930
Edison Elementary School	1931
Lindbergh Elementary School	1931
Webster Learning Center	1931
Central High School	1933
Benton High School	1940
Bessie Ellison Elementary School	1954
Hosea Elementary School	1954
Mark Twain Elementary School	1954
Truman Middle School	1956
Pickett Elementary School	1958
Skaith Elementary School	1965
Coleman Elementary School	1966
Spring Garden Middle School	1967
Parkway Elementary School	1971
Robidoux Middle School	1971
Hillyard Technical Center	1982
Carden Park Elementary	2014
Oak Grove Elementary School	2014



## ANGELIQUE PRIMARY



In existence in 1874, this school was located in a rented building situated on the southwest corner of Fifteenth and Angelique Streets. The school had been named the Fifteenth Street Primary for the years previous to 1874.

## AVENUE GERMAN-ENGLISH SCHOOL



This school was located on the north side of Frederick Avenue, between Tenth and Eleventh Streets. The District rented the building from 1887 until 1892 when the district purchased the property. From 1874 to 1887 it was known as the Avenue Primary School. The District moved the school into the building of the former Frederick Avenue Colored School, located on the northeast corner of Frederick Avenue and Thirteenth Street. After one year, it was closed and remained vacant until 1907 when the district turned it into a carpenter shop.

## AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL



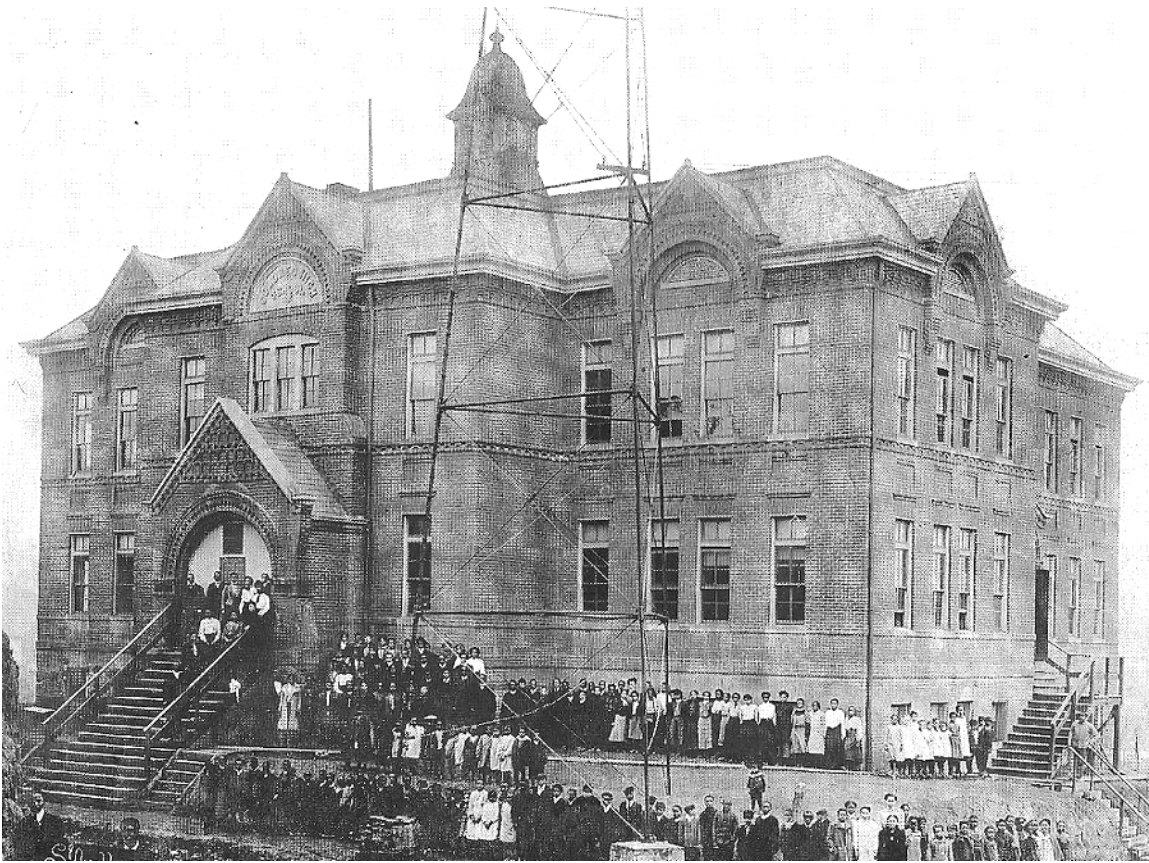
This was a temporary school used from 1868 to 1869, while the district was building the Webster and Washington Schools. It was a rented building at 209 (sic) Frederick Avenue. This is an impossible address and must surely have been 1209 Frederick Avenue (Rusk, n.d.). It was a three-story apartment house and the district rented the middle floor. Families lived above and below the school.

## AVENUE SCHOOL



There were two schools with the same name; the one referenced here existed from 1874 to 1877. It was located in a rented building that was situated on the north side of Frederick Avenue between Tenth and Eleventh Streets. It was purchased at a cost of \$10,000 (Superintendents Report, 1907). The school was later called the Avenue German-English School.

## BARTLETT HIGH AND GRAMMAR SCHOOL



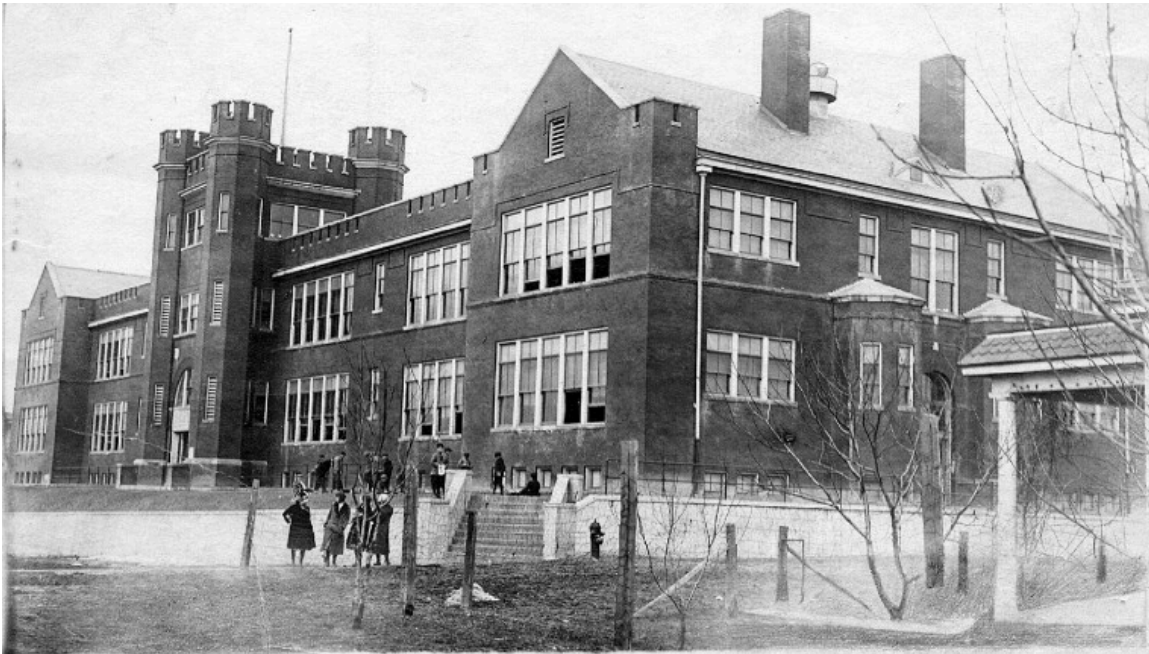
In 1904, the District changed the name of the Colored High and Grammar School to Bartlett High and Grammar School. It was named in honor of Herschel Bartlett who helped bring industrial arts to the school. Bartlett was built at the cost of \$17,690 (Superintendent's Report, 1907) and was located on the corner of 18th and Angelique Streets. Bartlett closed in 1954 due to desegregation efforts.

## BENTON HIGH SCHOOL <sup>1</sup>



Named in honor of Thomas Hart Benton, Missouri statesman from 1820-1850, it existed only from September to November of 1905 while a permanent location was found. The district rented the Old English Hall at King Hill Road and Colorado Avenues.

## BENTON HIGH SCHOOL II



November of 1905 saw the students move to the top of the Harvard Street Hill where Cumberland Street intersects. The early classes of 1909 and 1910 were sent to Central High School and it was not until 1911 that the first class actually graduated. The original structure cost \$91,000 to build (Superintendent's Report, 1907). The school still has a silent, 16mm film made by Fred Vandersloot, the principal during the thirties. In the latter part of this decade, it became apparent that a new building was needed. A survey, (Strayer, 1922) states the following:

The site upon which the Benton School is located was chosen without reference to adequate standards. Because of its location on the brow of one of the highest pieces of land in South St. Joseph, it was impossible to get an adequate playground in this locality which would suffice for the present school and for future growth. The inadequacy of site and the unfortunate location have also greatly influenced the style of architecture and also limited that possibility of expansion. Five or six acres should be procured across First Street in the sloping territory to the east of the present plant. This was done and the aforementioned film shows the leveling of the land, using only shovels, single blade plows pulled by mules, and one rather primitive tractor. The leveling took the side of a hill and made a football field out of it. In the late thirties, a new site was chosen. Much controversy arose because the new site was not the one recommended nor was it the one preferred by the members of the community. The recommended site was at Tenth and Noyes Avenue (Strayer, 1922).

Noyes Avenue is the street currently known as Mason Road (District Handbook, 1929).

## **BENTON HIGH SCHOOL III**



On the morning of March 21, 1940, the students picked up their books and marched down the east slope of Harvard Street Hill to 5655 South Fourth Street and the new Benton High School. In 1941, the seventh grade was dropped and in 1968, with the establishment of the middle school program by the District, the eighth grade left. Today, the school has had four additions and remains as one of the three public high schools in the city.

## **BESSIE ELLISON ELEMENTARY**



While St. Joseph was busy with desegregation, an area east of the city was organizing into the Platte Valley School District. In 1954, ten small districts consolidated into one. They purchased a 13-acre tract and opened the school with 175 pupils on November 14, 1954. The school was annexed by the St. Joseph School District in 1967 and renamed in honor of the former superintendent of the Platte Valley R-1 School District. Located five miles east of the Belt Highway on State Highway 6, the elementary school is somewhat unique with its lighted athletic field and rural setting. The school has a capacity around 500 students.

## BLAIR SCHOOL



Blair School was named in honor of Francis P. Blair, Missouri congressman during the Civil War and staunch supporter of the Union (Foley, 1976). It is situated on the northeast corner of 34th and Renick Streets. The original building was a two-room structure built at a cost of \$11,300 (Superintendent's Report, 1907) for both building and grounds (District, 1984).

At this time it was located within the Bliss School boundaries and served as an annex for them. In the fall of 1924, it was recognized as a separate school. In 1925, two additional rooms were built, making four rooms on each floor. On Sunday, April 14, 1940, while the structure was being remodeled, the front section burned. The students were sent to Hall, Musser, and the Second Presbyterian Church to finish the year. The remodeling just mentioned was the addition of a gymnasium-auditorium on the east end. In 1959, "an east wing of four rooms was added" (District, 1984).

As the 1970's came to a close and the 1980's opened, the district had many schools within a few blocks of each other. The city continued to move east and the Blair District became an area of retired citizens. This decline in enrollment caused the District to close Blair and convert it into the District's audio-visual department, bookroom, retrieval center, and general warehouse.



## **BLISS SCHOOL**



A very notable member of the community was Judge Philemon Bliss. Not only was he an early member of the District Board of Education, but he was a distinguished Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court from 1865 to 1891 and Dean of the Law Department at the University of Missouri during the same dates. Therefore, in 1890, the District renamed the old Wyatt Park School in his honor (Foley, 1976). The structure was a rented building located on the southwest corner of 30th and Olive Streets.

This new school was located on the northwest corner of 30th and Lafayette Streets. It opened its doors in 1916. The District invested \$7,500 to build the structure (Superintendent's Report, 1907). A survey taken during World War I (Strayer, 1922) states that "because of its splendid construction and adherence to many of the modern standards in school planning, this building will continue to be used as an elementary school over a period of at least thirty-five years."

## **BLISS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

Bliss School was converted into a Junior High School in 1931 and served as a feeder for Central High School. Benton and Lafayette High Schools had their Junior Highs under one structure. In 1973, the building was sold and converted into a rest home for the elderly.



## **BODE MIDDLE SCHOOL**



The building that is known today as Bode Middle School was built in 1927 and was named Christian Brothers High School. The school operated as a parochial high school until it closed in 1970 when the Catholic Parochial Schools decided to become co-educational. With the middle school program expanding in the early 1970's and the availability of this sound structure, the District purchased it. Renovation began and in the fall of 1972 Bode Middle School opened its doors. The school was named for a benefactor of the city, George Bode. He left his entire fortune to the city to use. Bode serves the northeast section of the city and is one of two middle schools that feed Central High School. Bode is located at 720 North Noyes Boulevard.

## **CARDEN PARK ELEMENTARY**



Located at 1510 Duncan Street, Carden Park Elementary opened in August 2014 and serves students in kindergarten through sixth grade. The school was named after Ernest (Ernie) Carden, who worked hard in the Carden Park neighborhood and donated countless volunteer hours to the midtown community. In 1977, the city council named the park in his honor. Carden Park is the home of the "Titans" and the school colors are purple, silver, and black.

# CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL <sup>1</sup>



Before 1907, there was only one high school in St. Joseph and it was simply known as St. Joseph High School. When Benton High School was established, it became obvious that a name change was in order. The history of St. Joseph High School is described under its own listing in this report so the school known as Central High School will be considered starting in 1907. It was located at 13th and Olive Streets. By the early 1920's it was obvious that the school was too small. According to the 1992 survey by Strayer and Associates:

The Central High School is greatly overcrowded and many of the children are being housed under most unfortunate conditions. The school has its auditorium on what is practically the fourth floor. The balcony of the auditorium is, of course, above this height. The fire escapes which are connected with this auditorium would serve for only a very small fraction of the children who at times fill the auditorium. The use of basement classrooms should be discontinued at the earliest moment. The health of children and teachers attending school in these classrooms is seriously endangered. The natural light is very inadequate and adequate ventilation cannot be provided. The gymnasium facilities, the provision for shops and household arts are of such a nature as to make it impossible to ever provide a modern high school. If St. Joseph is to place its high school facilities on par with those of other progressive cities, it will be necessary to select a site of at least 20-acres and to plan at the present time the beginnings of what will become ultimately the educational center of the city. The site and school plant should be located considerably to the east of the present plant and as near as possible to what has been and what promised to be the residential building center of the city.

It would be another eleven years before the District would heed this report. The gymnasium referred to was built in 1910, between the Everett School so it could serve both.

## CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL II



In 1933, the new high school was built at 26th and Edmond Streets to accommodate more students. Over the years the number of students continued to increase at Central High School. Enrollment peaked at almost 2,400 in the 1970's as a result of the Baby Boom. This increase caused Central to expand the original main building in 1961, with a 24-room addition, now called the Sophomore Annex. By 1967, there again was need for more space, so in 1968, a 25-room addition known as the Freshman Annex was completed. Since 1968 two other spaces have been added, the current library completed in 2002, and the Morgan Multipurpose Building in 2013. Today, the student population fluctuates around 1,600 students.

## COLEMAN ELEMENTARY

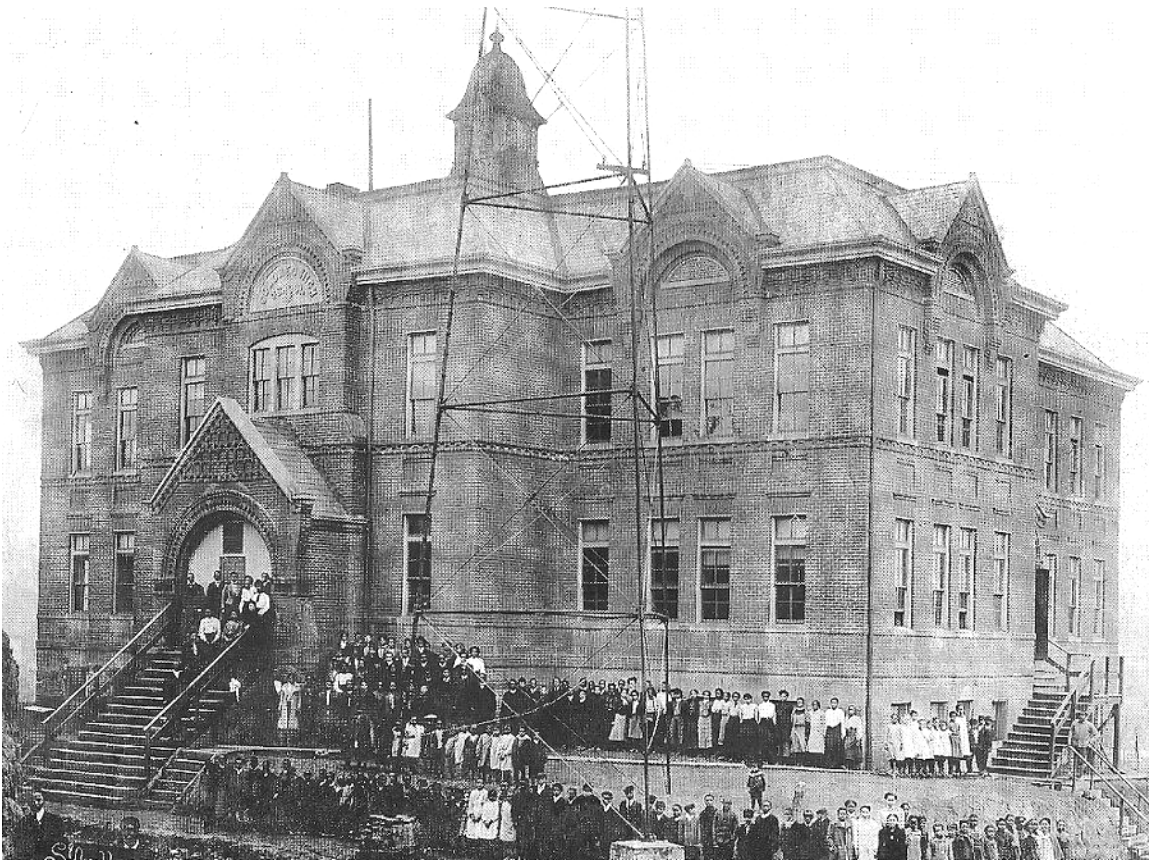


Coleman Elementary is located at 3312 Beck Road. Built in 1966, Coleman was originally named Hawthorne Elementary School for the famous American novelist and writer of short stories, Nathaniel Hawthorne. In 1996, it was renamed Coleman Elementary School in honor of long time District Assistant Superintendent, Mr. G. Max Coleman.

## COLORED HIGH SCHOOL

The school existed for three years from 1885 until 1888 when it was moved to a permanent structure at Eighteenth and Angelique Streets. The building was a rented room located on the northeast corner of Frederick Avenue and Twentieth Street. The District had created elementary schools for negroes after the Civil War had ended. It became obvious as well as the law, that a high school education must be provided for the “colored” (Foley, 1976).

## COLORED HIGH AND GRAMMAR SCHOOL



The successor of the Colored High School, previously mentioned, was located at Eighteenth and Angelique Streets. It was not a rented building as was the previous site. The school existed under this name from 1888 until 1904 at which time it was renamed Bartlett High School. The Grammar and Primary portion would serve all colored students south of Frederick Avenue, while the newly constructed Lincoln School would serve the northern populace. The High School, however, would serve the entire city. In 1904, the District changed the school name to Bartlett High and Grammar School.

## **COURTHOUSE HILL PRIMARY**

Not much is known of this school. It existed for only two years in a rented building located between Jules and Faraon Streets on Fourth Street. It was probably used while other schools were being built during the late 1880's.

## **CROSBY SCHOOL & ANNEX**



From 1866 to 1877, Mr. John S. Crosby served as principal of the St. Joseph High School. Upon retirement, he served as a member of the Board of Education for one year. In 1879, when it became apparent that a new school was needed to be built in the North End, it was decided to name it in honor of him. The school was located on the northwest corner of Savannah Avenue and Richardson Streets. As the area expanded, more space was needed and in 1894, an annex was built to the school. It became obvious that the North End of town needed a high school. In 1917, the Lafayette School was built and housed all twelve grades. It was at this time that the Crosby School was closed.

## DOUGLASS SCHOOL



Established in 1901 as the South St. Joseph Colored School, Douglass was created to serve the increasing number of colored children living on the South Side. In 1904, the name was changed to honor the abolitionist, Frederick Douglass. This structure of two rooms was located on Iowa Avenue near King Hill. In 1907, a more permanent structure was needed. The school was moved to “Division Street, West of King Hill Avenue” (Foley, 1976). It was a temporary wooden structure, hung on a cliff that drew the following statement from the Strayers report of 1922:

Certain needed repairs and additions be made to the Douglass to care for the children in that center. No plan for a permanent building at this center should be made, as it is almost certain that this school will be eliminated within the next few years. At that time, a proper site and location may be secured which may be developed to adequately care for the children who live in or near this territory.

It is interesting to note that the report tries to minimize the existence of these Colored Schools. They must have been deplorable because the report continues to say:

The use of the basement classrooms in this four-room school should be discontinued and two new rooms should be added at this point so that the children of this school are housed under healthful conditions. Modern toilet connections can be made, chemical toilets are recommended for temporary use.

In spite of these two apparently contradictory statements in the same report, the District took heed and went up the hill, east, for two blocks to the corner of Russell and Barbara Streets to build a permanent brick structure in 1929. The school was closed, as were the other colored schools in 1954 when the district integrated.



## **EDISON ELEMENTARY**



Named after Thomas A. Edison, this brick school, located at 22nd and Clay Street was opened in the fall of 1931. It really is the combination of two schools, Garfield and Jackson, both of which were in the area and were closed when the school opened. It is a beautiful three-story brick structure whose grounds occupy an entire city block. Its first principal was Francis Burriss who came over from the Jackson School. The structure is still in use today.

## **EIGHTEENTH STREET COLORED SCHOOL**



This school was located on the southwest corner of 18th and Beattie Streets. It was rented and used for the colored children of the north-central portion of the city. Established in 1888, it lasted for only nine years until 1897 when it combined with the Lincoln Colored School on St. Joseph Avenue.

## **EIGHTH STREET PRIMARY**

This school existed for only a few months during 1870. It was located on the east side of Eighth Street between Seneca and Lafayette Streets (Polk, 1870). Miss Rosa Sommerville served as principal during its existence in a rented room. Evidence indicates it was probably used while waiting on the Neely School to be built.

## **ELEVENTH STREET PRIMARY**



Like the Eighth Street Primary, this school existed for only a few months during 1870 while waiting for Neely School to be built. It too was a rented room located on the corner of Eleventh and Pacific Streets. Ms. M.N. Edwards was its principal.



## ERNST SCHOOL



The school was named in honor of Charles F. Ernst, a member of the board of education from 1871 to 1883. The school was a rented building first opened in 1888 and called the Walkers' Addition School. In 1891 it was decided to change the name to the Ernst School. In 1894, the rented building was demolished, the land purchased by the District, and a permanent structure was erected at a cost of \$7,500 (Superintendent's Report, 1907). Both buildings were located on the northeast corner of Fifth Avenue and Savannah Road (Foley, 1976). The school was "located upon a very limited site adjacent to the most extensively used north and south thoroughfare in the city" (Strayer, 1922). The building was in terrible shape by 1922 and recommendations for closing it were many. Strayer (1922) goes on to say:

It is recommended that a new Ernst School be made a part of the immediate building program. This school should be located in the vicinity of Second Street and Green Avenue where an extensive acreage can be secured at a very reasonable figure. The initial unit of this new Ernst School should provide for 640 children. This will relieve the overcrowding at the Humboldt school and provide for all of the children of the present Ernst plant who live west of St. Joseph Avenue. It will also reduce the number of children at the Krug School so that only such rooms in this building that are desirable will be used. This new plant will also provide relief for the elementary grades in the present Lafayette structure.

This was close to what actually happened. The school existed for nine more years and in 1931, the students were moved to the new Charles A. Lindbergh School, which is located four blocks south of the proposed site. A picture from the Strayer Report shows a very cramped room, long and narrow, full of children, with paint hanging from the ceiling and no artificial lighting. The location where the school was located is one-half block east of St. Joseph Avenue on 5th Avenue.

## EUGENE FIELD SCHOOL <sup>1</sup>



Unlike other schools of the same name, the two Eugene Field Schools have no connection. The original Eugene Field School, the one mentioned here, was located on the northwest corner of 16th and Sacramento Streets. The structure was a \$32,500 investment by the District (Superintendent's Report, 1907). It was obviously named after the "Children's Poet Laureate" (Foley, 1976). The school existed until 1933 when it was closed with its students being divided between Everett, Hall and Neely Schools with the majority going to Neely. Neely at this time was a new school with lots of rooms unused. The Strayer Report of 1922 states that the school was "poorly planned" and that the building "could not possibly be retained in any ultimate elementary program and should be abandoned as the program advances."

## EUGENE FIELD ELEMENTARY II



On the close of Eugene Field School, the name was moved to an already existing school in the northeast part of town, Whittier School. Located at 26th Street and Gene Field Road, Whittier originally consisted of two rooms. As the population increased in the northeast part of the city, additions were made to the original building. In the summer of 1973, the oldest part of the school burned, destroying the office, four large classrooms, the gymnasium and the long hall which had beautiful arched windows that opened out. The fire was probably caused by burning trash escaping from the incinerator smokestack, landing on the old dry wooden shingle roof. The building was redesigned and by 1974 a renovated building continued under the name of Eugene Field School. A library was added, the main office centralized and the parking lot and circle drive was created.

## EVERETT SCHOOL



Everett School was built in 1909 and located at 14th and Olive Streets, right behind the St. Joseph High School. It was named in honor of Edward Everett, the Constitutional-Unionist candidate for president in 1860. Everett remained open as an elementary school until 1985 when declining enrollment in this part of town forced its closure.

## FIFTEENTH STREET PRIMARY



This school existed from 1871-1874 when it was renamed the Angelique Primary and then closed that same year. Located at the southwest corner of Fifteenth and Angelique Streets. It spent its entire life in a rented building with Ms. A.E. Williams serving as its principal.

## FIFTH WARD SCHOOL



Built at the corner of 12th and Olive Streets in 1866, its name was changed to the Everett School only one year after its construction. The school itself existed until 1908 when the new Everett School was built.

## FIRST COLORED SCHOOL

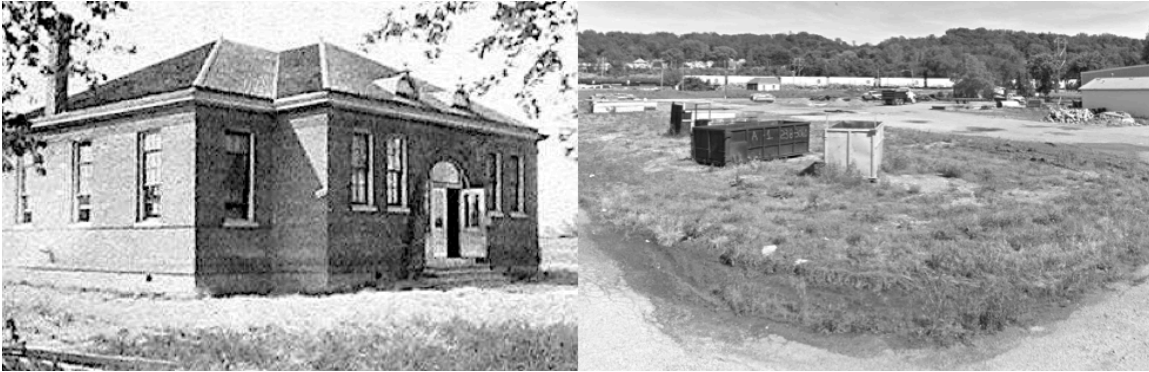
In 1866, after the Civil War and the need to open schools for the colored, the District opened this school in the basement of the African Baptist Church located at 4th and Francis Streets. In 1867, a permanent structure was built at 4th and Michel Streets. In July 1871, a wind storm destroyed this structure and it was relocated northwest of this point to Second and Cherry Streets. This had been the Madison School since 1867. Prior to 1867 it was called the Third Ward School and from 1860 to 1866 it was named the First Ward School. In 1887, the students were moved to the new Lincoln School at St. Joseph Avenue and Pendleton Street. The building itself remained until 1901 when it was renamed Humboldt. The original 4th and Michel Street location was sold to the railroad for \$4,000.

## FIRST WARD SCHOOL



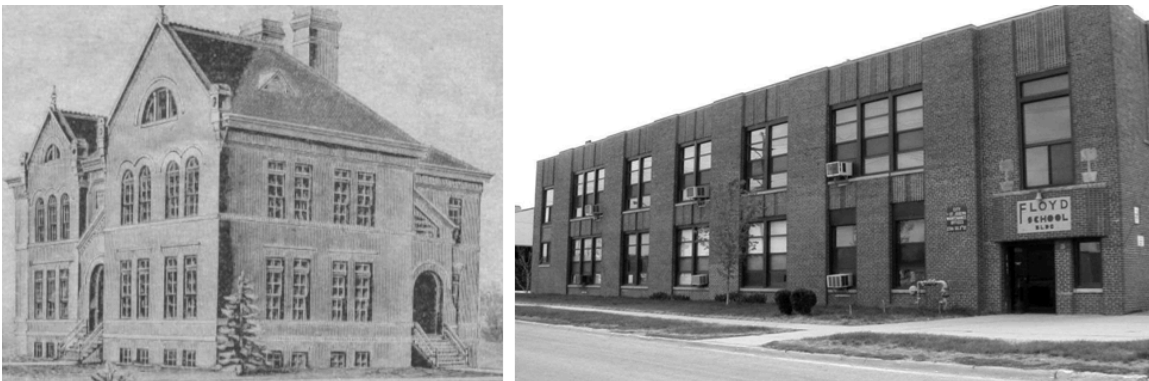
One of the first three schools built by the District, (the other ones being the Second Ward School and the Third Ward School) was opened April 23, 1860. It was built on land donated by Joseph Robidoux, the founder of Blacksnake Hills, a small town that was later renamed St. Joseph. The school started on the southeast corner of 3rd and Charles Streets. On May 21, 1861, the school was forced to close because of the Civil War. It reopened in October 1864. In 1865, the school was sold to John P. Fink for \$12 as a site for a shoe factory (Neely, 1877).

## FLORENCE ADDITION SCHOOL



The name came from the area in which the school was located. It was a small rural, two room, brick structure located on the southwest corner of Moose and Smith Streets. Built in 1901 at a cost of \$4,800 (Superintendent's Report, 1907), it was abandoned in 1927 by the district.

## FLOYD SCHOOL I, II



From 1870 to 1879, William H. Floyd served as president of the school board. When a new school was opened on the northwest corner of 6th and Jackson Streets, it seemed fitting to name a school after him. The Floyd School replaced the 6th Street School located a few blocks south. The school was opened in 1877 and in 1886 a second story was added.

Due to increasing enrollment the board built a new building at 3rd and Hickory Streets that cost \$18,920 (Superintendent's Report, 1907). An annex was added in 1904 due to growing enrollment. In the early 1930's the district razed the old structure and built a modern two-story building. By 1967, the city was moving east and the area was becoming populated with elderly citizens. Therefore, the school closed and was used for a time as a district book room and audio-visual center until the Blair School closed and those offices relocated there. Today the building houses the offices of the City of St. Joseph Maintenance Department.



## **FOURTH STREET SCHOOL**

This school was located in the Studebaker Building at 4th and Patee Streets. It was rented for only one year from 1877 from 1878.



## **FOURTH WARD SCHOOL**

No records remain of this school other than the fact it existed between 1864 and 1865.

## **FRANCIS STREET GERMAN-ENGLISH SCHOOL**

This school was a rented room located on the corner of 4th and Francis Streets. It existed for only one year from 1873 to 1874, when it was turned into the Francis Street Primary School.

## **FRANCIS STREET PRIMARY**

This was the new name for the Francis Street German-English School. It was still in a rented room in the Fall of 1874, but did not exist long enough to see the New Year.

## FRANKLIN SCHOOL



The old Third Ward School, a new name for the original Second Ward School, became the Franklin School in 1867 and lasted under that name until 1896. The structure was located on the east side of 12th Street between Francis and Jules. When it was closed, the building was demolished and the new Robidoux School replaced it at the new location of 10th and Felix Streets. In 1871, Superintendent Neely wrote, “this school is occupied by the more advanced grades of primary scholars. The building is made of brick, two stories high. It was one of the first public school houses built in St. Joseph, and is neither ornamental in appearance nor conveniently arranged for school purposes. It contains two school rooms, one on each floor, and a small hall in front for the stairs. The size of each room is 32 by 23 feet. The building is in good repair and is comfortably and handsomely furnished. Scholars of the sixth, fifth and fourth grades only are admitted into this school. During the year 1870-1871, there were enrolled one hundred and seventy-eight pupils.”

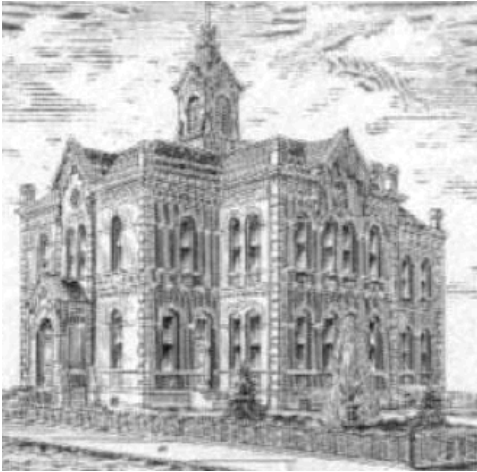
## FREDERICK AVENUE COLORED SCHOOL



The school existed from 1885 to 1891 on rental property located on the northeast corner of Frederick Avenue and 13th Street. The District purchased the property in 1891, but did not use it until 1907 when it converted it into the District Carpenter Shop.



## **GARFIELD SCHOOL**



Garfield School was named after our 20th President, James A. Garfield and operated from 1882 to 1930. The school was located on the northeast corner of 19th and Francis Streets. In 1884, a branch was built on the north side of Francis Street between 16th and 17th Streets. The annex was physically moved to the Garfield grounds in 1887 where the name was changed to the Garfield Annex (Foley, 1976). Further additions were made in 1902 and 1916 (Strayer, 1922). The Strayer Report of 1922 recommended closing the school and combining the enrollment of Garfield and Jackson schools into a modern school with adequate facilities. The District closed both schools in 1930 and moved students to the new Thomas A. Edison School at 22nd and Clay Street.

## **GERMAN-ENGLISH SCHOOL**



Built in 1869 by the St. Joseph Deutsch Scul Verein (German School Society), it was sold to the District in 1871 (Foley, 1976). Originally this school received students who wished to study both English and German. When it was sold to the District, a condition was written into the sale that German would continue to be taught. As the number of students increased, a brick annex was added in 1887. In 1918, the school was renamed the Longfellow School.

## GRANT SCHOOL



This school, named after the 18th President of the United State, was built in 1894, at a cost of \$7,500 (Superintendent's Report, 1907). It was located on North Eleventh Street and Pendleton Avenue. The school was short lived in that it was closed in 1907. However, it was briefly used during the 1917-18 school year and contained 37 students. School board minutes indicate, but do not specifically state that the Grant School was perhaps used as an overflow for Washington School.

## GREEN VALLEY SCHOOL



The school was opened in 1916 on Blackwell Road north of the city. There were 38 students in the building that fall (Strayer, 1922). The first school was a two-room frame building. The population in this area grew so fast the two-room structure was replaced by a six-room school and auditorium. Several rooms have been added since and instead of Green Valley School it is Pershing Elementary, named in honor of General John J. Pershing.

## HALL SCHOOL



Named in honor of Judge Willard P. Hall, Jr., this building was erected on the land donated by him. Judge Hall was a member of the first graduating class of St. Joseph High School in 1868. He was the son of Willard Preble Hall who served as the 17th Governor of Missouri from 1864 to 1865. The building was erected in 1887 on the northeast corner of 25th and Duncan Streets at a cost to the District of \$5,450. In the early 1900's, it became obvious that the structure was too small. In 1908, students entered a new brick structure located on the same corner. The District purchased land around Hall School which allowed the building to expand several times. Hall School was closed by the District in 2014.

## HAWTHORNE ELEMENTARY



Hawthorne Elementary School was built in 1966 and was named for the famous American writer, Nathaniel Hawthorne. In 1996, it was renamed Coleman Elementary School in honor of long time District Assistant Superintendent, Mr. G. Max Coleman.

## HILLYARD VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL



Hillyard I  
701 Messanie Street



Hillyard II  
800 S. 9th Street



Hillyard III  
800 S. 9th Street

The school began its daytime vocational classes in 1941 with an auto mechanics class taught in the former Central Police Station at 701 Messanie Street. William P. Green, the school's first director, was responsible for much of its development. At the start of World War II, he was in charge of evening courses conducted for the National Defense Agency at the former Hillyard Chemical Co. building at 800 S. 9th Street. In 1943, the government closed out the school and donated the vocational equipment to the District. The Hillyard Company then donated the building which became the school's first permanent facility. In 1964, the District purchased the former Whitaker Cable Co. factory at 1000 S. 9th Street. It was remodeled at a cost of \$137,000 and classes started in the new facility in 1966. Hillyard outgrew the facility and moved to their current facility in 1982. Today, the structure at 1000 S. 9th Street is the location for the School District's Maintenance Department.

## HILLYARD TECHNICAL CENTER



In 1982, Hillyard moved to its present location at 3434 Faraon Street. In 1999, the board of education voted to change the name of the school to Hillyard Technical Center. In February 2017, the Advanced Science Research Center opened. The two-story, 10,000-square-foot addition includes science laboratory space, two classrooms and a commons and lounge space on both levels, along with a new secure entry and reception office. The expansion provides research space for students in agricultural science programs and creates opportunities for students from all three of the district's high schools, and gifted students.

## HOME FOR LITTLE WANDERERS SCHOOL



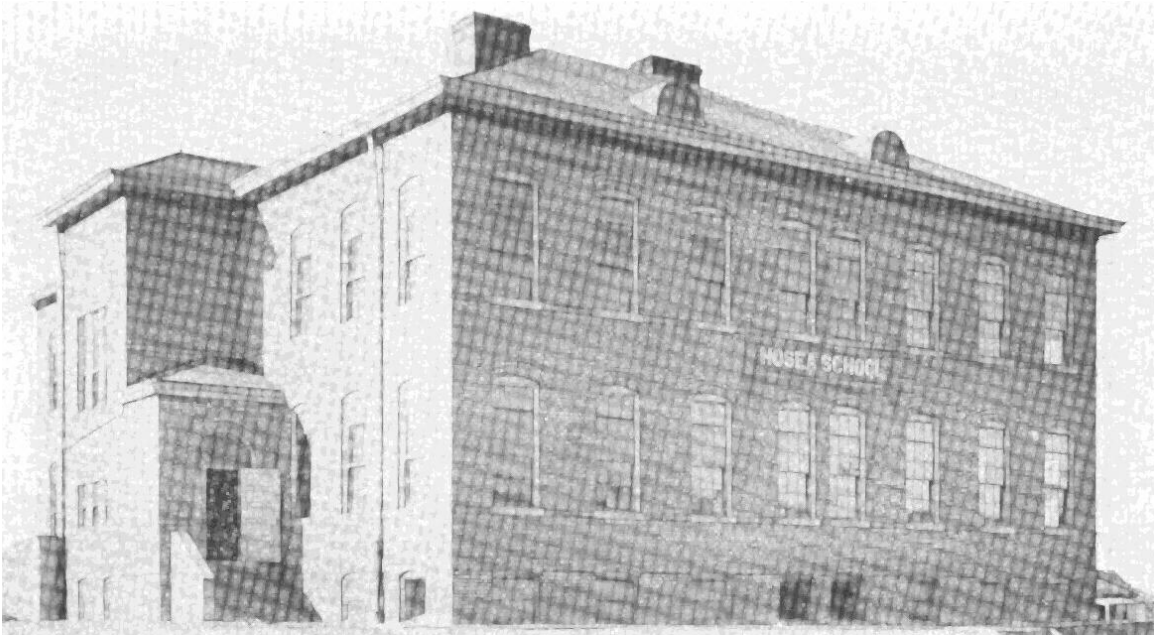
This is an orphanage located on Noyes Boulevard and Union Streets. The orphanage itself was established by C.W. Noyes. In 1897, with approximately 40 children in the home, the District furnished a teacher and supplies. This lasted until 1929 when the students were transferred to other area schools.

## HORACE MANN SCHOOL



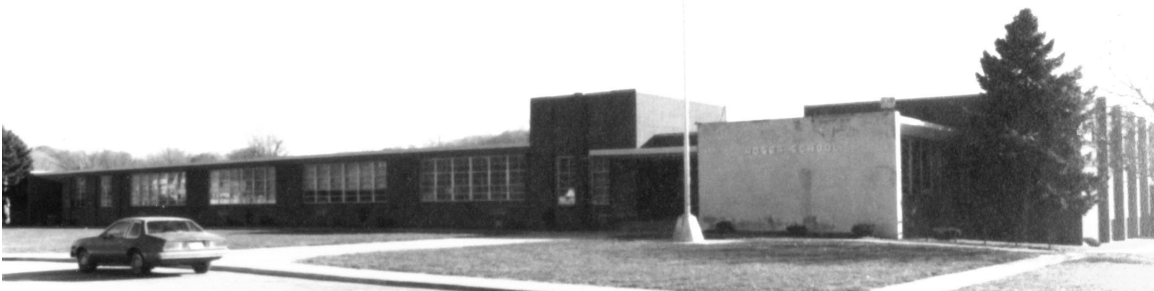
Horace Mann was built on the site of where Bartlett High School was located until it closed in 1954. Horace Mann opened as a desegregated elementary school in 1954 and became a middle school in 1971. Due to declining enrollment it closed in 1979 and was given to the city as a recreation center. It is known today as the Bartlett Center.

## HOSEA SCHOOL <sup>I</sup>



The original structure was built in 1901 on the corner of Hyde Park and Park. Park was later changed to Gordon Avenue. Hosea School was named in honor of Isaac T. Hosea, a member of the board of education for two terms. A very popular man, Mr. Hosea was serving his second term on the board when he died on August 21, 1901. This brick structure contained four rooms. The land was purchased for \$1,000 and the structure was built for \$12,700. By 1908, four more rooms had been added.

## HOSEA ELEMENTARY <sup>II</sup>



In 1954, a large acreage was purchased just south of the intersection of Valley and Gordon Streets and Hosea Elementary was built. Pickett School was destroyed by fire just one month after the new Hosea was occupied and the old Hosea was used by the Pickett children until their school was rebuilt. An annex was added to the southwest corner of Hosea in 1961.



## HUMBOLDT SCHOOL



From 1860-1865, it was called Third Ward School. From 1866-1880, it was called the Madison School. In 1880, it became St. Joseph's First Colored School and kept that name until 1887 when students were moved to Lincoln School (Foley, 1976). In 1887, the District closed the German-English School at 2nd and Isadore Streets and move the students to the now vacant building. They decided to rename it in honor of Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859), a noted German naturalist, traveler, and statesman. In 1901, the structure was razed and a new brick structure was built. In 1907, the school was enlarged to accommodate students from the Steinacker School which was abandoned in 1907 (Foley, 1976). Humboldt was closed in 2018 and students were relocated to elementary schools on the North Side.

## HUNDLEY CHAPEL SCHOOL



From 1890-1894, the District rented the basement of this church at 19th and Union Streets.

## HYDE ELEMENTARY



In 1850, Anliff C. Hyde donated a plot of land where a small one-room school was later built. In 1860, a new four-room structure was built nearby. In 1870, a new large frame structure was built adjacent and to the east of the 1860 Hyde School and was used until it was destroyed by fire in 1893. In 1894, a new school was built on the same ground and was known as King Hill School. In 1901, a new four-room brick school was built at 6th and Harmon. In 1908, an addition was added and King Hill students moved there. In 1930, land was purchased south of the old school on Thompson Street. Hyde Elementary was made of brick and had eight rooms, a cafeteria, and a gym. By 1952, two classrooms, one on each floor, were added on the northwest. In 1968, a ten-classroom annex with cafeteria was built on the northeast.

## JACKSON SCHOOL



In 1894, this large structure was built on the east side of 24th Street between Union and Clay. Named in honor of President Andrew Jackson, the building cost \$6,550. The Strayer Report of 1922 recommended closing both Jackson and Garfield Schools in favor of more modern and educationally appropriate facility. In 1930, the District closed Jackson and Garfield and students relocated to Thomas A. Edison School.



## KEATLEY CENTER



The Keatley Center was purchased by the District in 1998 from the Wyatt Park Baptist Church when they closed their church at 28th and Mitchell Street. The Keatley Center serves as Truman Middle School's gym and also houses the Parents as Teachers offices.

## KING HILL SCHOOL



When Hyde School number three burned in 1893, the new building was called King Hill School. It was located on the same land as the one that burned on 4th and Hyde Park. It was only big enough to house grades one through four until it emerged with a new Hyde building at 6th and Harmon.

## KRUG SCHOOL



Henry Krug, Sr. was a wealthy land owner whose properties were located in the north end of the city. In 1849 he came to America from Germany. In 1868, he and his brother moved to St. Joseph where he founded the Henry Krug Packing Co. By 1887 he had become quite a successful banker. He and his family donated a total of 160 acres to the city for a park (L.C. Kimberlin, 1984). When the school was built in 1902, it was named in honor of this man.

The School was built in 1902 at a cost of \$17,000 (Superintendent's Report, 1907). It was located on St. Joseph Avenue on the east side of the street adjacent to the Boulevard. A swimming pool is located there today. According to the Strayer Report of 1922,

This school has the largest acreage of any elementary school in the city. A ditch, however, cuts the acreage, and lies so low that it is practically unusable for play purposes. The future school building should include the erection of a new building in the vicinity of Savannah and Amazonia Roads. The current Krug building and the Maxwell building should be eliminated.

Krug School was established, but did not become part of the District until 1936 when it was used as a school for students with intellectual disabilities. The long time principal was Myrtle Miller and the school was vacated in 1956. A new school was established for this purpose and the school was named for her.

# LAFAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL



Lafayette High School has served the St. Joseph community since 1917. Over the years, the school has adjusted to changes in population and culture of the community. Lafayette has provided an increasing variety of academic and extra-curricular opportunities for the students. In 1917, North High School was built on a block of property surrounded by Highland, Dolman, Washington and Fourth Streets. The official address is 412 E. Highland Avenue.

In September 1917, seventeen teachers, under the direction of Principal Vincent A. Davis, served students in grades 1 through 10. Mr. Davis' salary was \$1,800 for ten months. Extra-curricular activities included basketball and football. The students chose green and gray for their colors. In December 1917, the board of education changed the name North High School to Lafayette High School, honoring the Marquis de Lafayette. In 1919, a winning football team, under the direction of D.H. Murphy, became known as "The Fighting Irish", and the school emblem became the shamrock. The Booster Club was organized this year. In 1920, the first school newspaper, Hi-Life, later called The Light was published. A boys' vocational program and girls' domestic science program were soon added.

The following years brought many significant changes. In 1940, building an extension on the west side provided a library, ROTC facilities and new classrooms. new gym In 1961, a gymnasium, cafeteria and more classrooms were added. In 1969, another physical change provided a four story annex on the east side, offering more classrooms and resource centers. During the 1990-91 school year, the building was extended again with the completion of a two-story addition on the south side of the building. This addition provided a very modern learning resource center with the latest in technology. It also provided courses for students in grades nine through twelve. During the 2001-03 school years, the building was extended once again. A two story addition on the south side of the media center and to the east of the cafeteria provided a new practice gym on the top floor and below the gym, a new modern band room, storage areas and a new girls locker room. The LHS track was resurfaced and at the same time, two rooms on the west end of the building were remodeled to give Lafayette two state of the art science laboratories. The building was further enhanced when the original office, the vice principals offices and one classroom were remodeled to contain the East Office, for the Vice Principals, a conference room, and the West Office for the Principal and Activities Coordinator.

# LAKE CONTRARY ELEMENTARY



Opened in 1961 as part of the Buchanan County School District, Lake Contrary Elementary joined the St. Joseph School District the fall of 1965. Located on a large plot of land, Lake Contrary took in students from Hyde, Kirchner, Lake Station, Shepherd, and Weis Schools. Note that the Hyde school (not pictured below), was not the school near Hyde Park, rather it located near the Muskrat Slough area. Kirchner was located two blocks east and two blocks north of Lake Contrary Elementary. Shepherd was two miles west of the Lake Contrary Amusement Park. Weis was located between the beach area between Lake Contrary and the Missouri River. The location of Weis today is the middle of the river. Lake Contrary closed in 2018 and students were relocated to Hosea, Hyde, and Spring Garden Middle School.



Kirchner School



Lake Station School



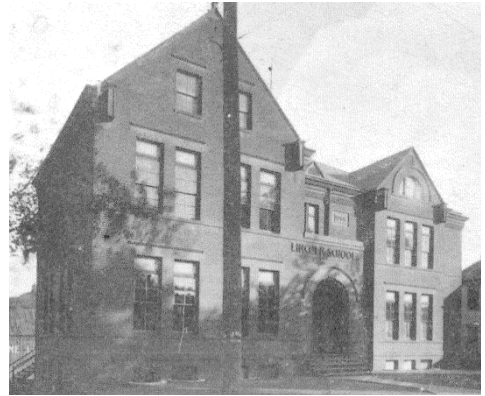
Weis School



Shepherd School

## LINCOLN SCHOOL

This building was located on the southeast corner of St. Joseph Avenue and Pendleton Streets. It was built in 1887 to consolidate all the colored schools in the North End. It was named after President Abraham Lincoln, “The Great Emancipator.” On July 25, 1894, it was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt the same year (Foley, 1976). The school was abandoned in 1954 due to desegregation. In fact, the District claims the honor of being the first District to totally desegregate following the Brown v. Board of Education decision in 1954. The V.F.W. hall stands on this ground today.



## LINDBERGH ELEMENTARY



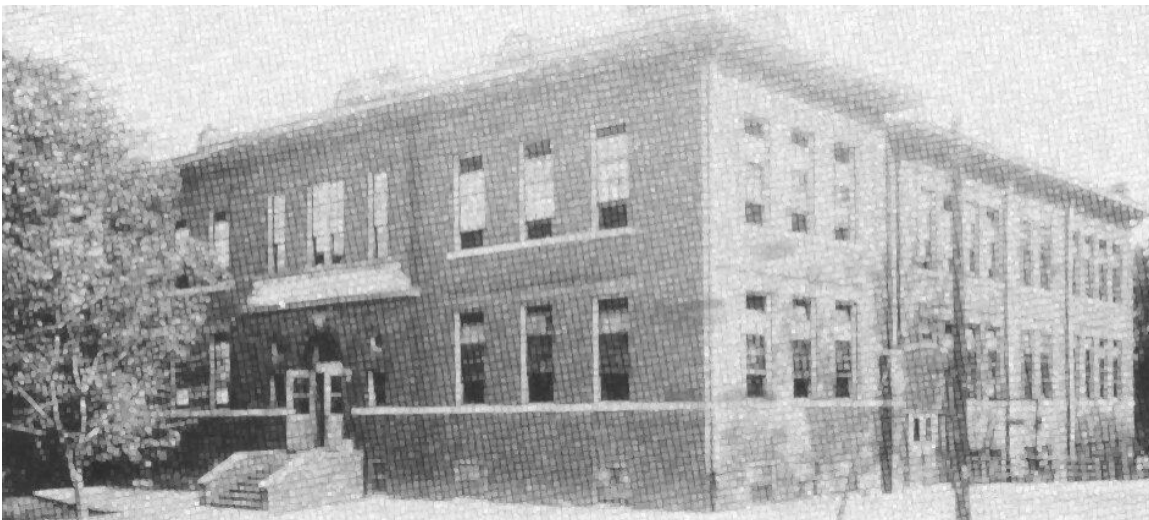
Lindbergh Elementary is named in honor of the famed aviator, Charles A. Lindbergh. It was first occupied in the fall of 1931 and is still in use today. The school is located on the west side of St. Joseph Avenue, running the full block from Monroe to Concord Streets.

## LONGFELLOW SCHOOL



In 1918, reaction to World War I caused the teaching of German to be dropped and the name was changed to the Longfellow School. It was operated under that name as an elementary school until the spring of 1936. At this time, it was used as a school for crippled children (News-Press, 1940). For four years it sat as a storage building for the District until the spring of 1940 when it was razed. After that, the annex remained and was used as the ROTC headquarters. This was later razed and has been a parking lot for the district ever since. The steps and the front retaining wall still exist. The students transferred to Robidoux and Young when it was closed.

## MADISON SCHOOL



From 1867-1880, this was one of the names used for the Humboldt School. It was named in honor of President James Madison. It was the original Third Ward School and after 1880 was known as the First Colored School. It was located at Second and Cherry Streets.



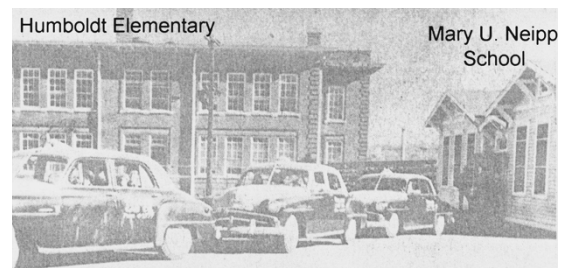
## MARK TWAIN SCHOOL



Named in honor of the famed American writer, Mark Twain Elementary was built in 1954. When the Musser School closed in 1954, Mark Twain opened and welcomed students from the same attendance area. The school is located on a large acreage at 31st and South Noyes Boulevard on the east end of Parkway Avenue.

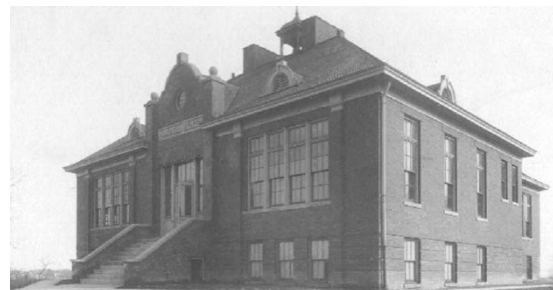
## MARY U. NEIPP SCHOOL FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

This school was located at 2nd and Cherry Streets in the Humboldt building. When it closed in 1945, the student were sent to the Hosea School. It was opened in 1927 with Ms. Agnes Patterson teaching all eight grades in the school during its entire 18 year existence. It was later moved to the Myrtle Miller School.



## MAXWELL SCHOOL

The Maxwell School was located in "Maxwell Heights" near the Old Amazonia Road. It was annexed into the District in 1908 and remained in use until 1931 when students transferred to Lindbergh Elementary.





## MCKINLEY SCHOOL



This school was named in honor of our 25th President, William McKinley. The original structure was located on the north end of where Pryor Avenue and Colorado intersect, between King Hill and Lake Avenues and was built in 1892. The District took over operation of the school in 1901. By 1907, it was obvious that a new structure was needed and in the fall of that year, students moved to the new building located on the northeast corner of Barbara and Kansas. This is three blocks east and two blocks north of the old school. The new location was on the crest of a hill and the Strayer Report of 1922 listed it as one of the best schools in the city. The only fault they found was that extensive grading needed to be done to the north to create a playground. This was finally done in the early 1960's. In fact, the entire top of the hill was literally flattened. McKinley remained an integral part of the District until 1976 when old age forced the District to close it. The students were divided between the other three Southside schools, Hosea, Hyde and Lake Contrary. The building was razed, but the gym remained for the city to establish a youth center.

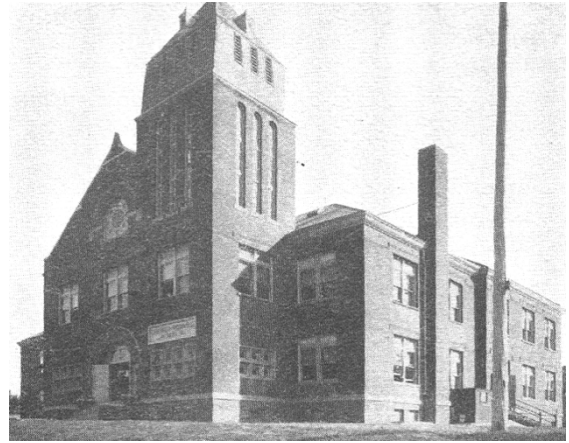
## MITCHELL AVENUE PRIMARY



This was another of the one year, rented buildings used by the District in the late 1800's. It was located on the northeast corner of 14th and Mitchell Avenue. It was only used from 1876-1877. An interesting note is that the school for two year prior was known as South St. Joseph Primary. In the 1870's with was considered the south end of the city.

## MUSSER SCHOOL

The Musser School was built in 1895 and was named after Robert S. Musser, a member of the board of education from 1880-1883. The structure was located on the southeast corner of 24th and Olive Streets. According to the Strayer Report of 1922, "It is an old school with wooden stairways, poorly arranged corridors, inadequate toilet facilities and limited playground. St. Joseph will not be content to use this building over an extended period, but will continue to do so until the second phase of the building program is made possible."



The building was remodeled and modernized and used until 1954 because it was a sound structure. The phases referred to involved first, building several new schools and second, remodeling several old ones or replacing them. Once closed, students from the Musser School were relocated to Mark Twain Elementary.

## MYRTLE MILLER SCHOOL



When the old Krug School was abandoned, the District built a new school behind Mark Twain Elementary at 33rd and Olive Streets. Myrtle Miller had served as the principal at Krug for many years and the school board decided to name the new school after her. Ms. Miller then served as the principal of the school that carried her name for nine more years. This school served students with disabilities from all over the city. In 1973, the District decided that research supported greater inclusion and mainstreaming of students with disabilities. The school was then used as part of the new District middle school plan and the name was changed to Harry S. Truman Middle School.

## NEELY SCHOOL



As the city expanded to the south, a permanent school was needed in the area of 12th and Pacific. The District had used its rented room plan, but the area was growing so fast in 1871, they dedicated the school at 12th and Scott Streets, a few blocks north of Pacific. The building was named in honor of Edward B. Neely, the Superintendent of Schools at the time. It lasted until 1908 when age and space caused it to be razed and a new school was built on the same ground (Foley, 1976). Neely Elementary was closed in 2009.

## NORTH MARKET PRIMARY

On Main Street, in an area now occupied by approach ramps to Interstate 229, was a block known as Market Square. It was the center of the city for it was in this area that the buying, selling and trading of goods took place for the entire city. The building was a large two-story type of warehouse. In 1866, the District rented the north half of this building for use as a school. It was used for three years until 1869 when its students were transferred to Madison.



## NOYES SCHOOL



In 1900, it was obvious that the Saxton Heights School need to be replaced. The District moved northeast to the corner of 26th and Delaware Streets. The school was named after Charles W. Noyes, a shoe manufacturer who had just recently passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Noyes had three children, all of whom had died in childhood. They decided that they would spend most of their wealth on the less fortunate and built an orphanage that bears his name. To honor him, the school, in the same relative area, was named after this man. In 1939, a new structure was built on the same site, and served as a Junior High School for a few years. It was soon changed back to an elementary school and additions were made in June of 1957 and January of 1963. The school's claim to fame is that Jane Wyman, the movie and TV star and first wife of President Ronald Reagan, spent her grade school years in this building. Noyes was closed by the District in 2014.

## OAK GROVE ELEMENTARY



Located at 4901 Cook Road, Oak Grove Elementary opened in August 2014 and serves students in preschool through sixth grade. The school was named for a school of that same name that once sat in the area of Bishop and Cook Roads. Oak Grove is the home of the “Grizzlies” and the school colors are royal blue and silver.

## OLIVE STREET SCHOOL



The District rented a building on the north side of Olive Street near 10th Street from 1891 to 1895. It was used to eliminate overcrowding at Everett School until it could be expanded.

## OWEN SCHOOL



This school was situated in the country south of the city. The city expanded and its location is now known as the northwest corner of 28th and Pear Streets. It was built in 1896 and inherited by the District in 1917. According to the Strayer Report of 1922, "This two-room structure should be continued without change. Its site is approximately correct for future building in this section when growth makes it necessary to think in terms of a modern plant at this point. In short, it was a little two-room country school with four grades in each room. It lasted until 1931 when it was closed and its students were sent to South Park.

## **PARKWAY ELEMENTARY**



When the South Park School became too old to remodel, the District decided to build this new structure in 1971. The name came from its location of 29th and Duncan Streets, adjacent to Bartlett Park. It is built of masonry blocks covered with brick veneer. The total cost of the Parkway School project was \$890,286 for site development, construction, furniture, equipment, and architect fees. This school was built so that every classroom would have exterior door to provide direct access to the playground or for rapid evacuation if needed. It was designed to allow for flexibility and for possible future growth with movable walls and folding partitions between some of the rooms.

## **PERSHING ELEMENTARY**



Pershing Elementary was built in 1925 and is named in honor of General John J. Pershing, the World War I Army General from Missouri who led the American Expeditionary forces. Two additions were made in 1953 and again ten years later in 1963.

## **PETTEPIER'S SCHOOL**

In 1902, a small one room frame school was built in Pettepier's Addition at the southwest corner of Diagonal (Lower Lake Road) and Pearle. It was taken over by the District in 1905 and abandoned in 1910.

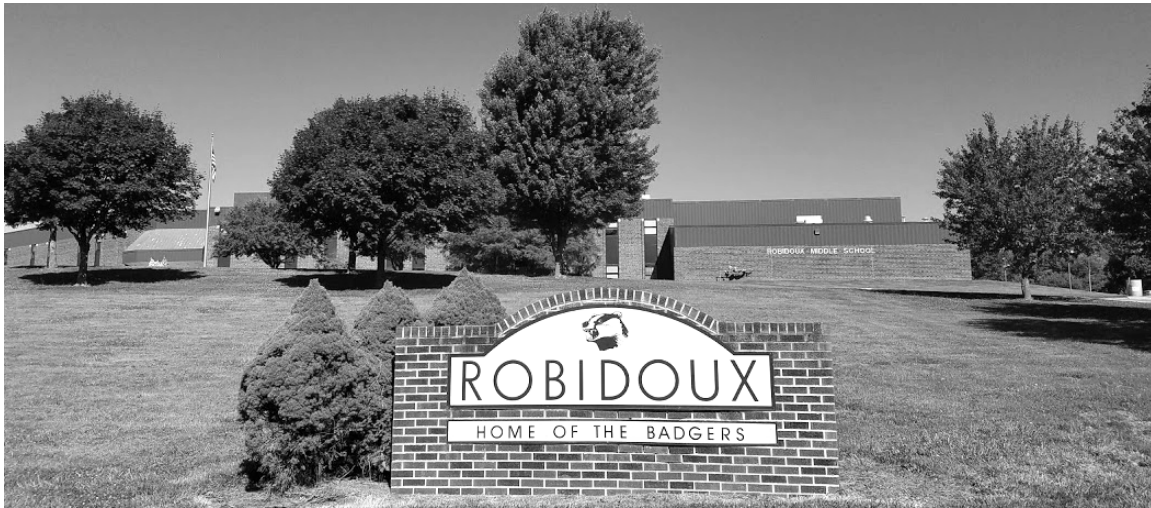
## **PICKETT ELEMENTARY**



The original Pickett School was part of the county organization of schools. The school was added to the District in 1965 when the county district dissolved. The original building was located across the road, south of the present structure at 3923 Pickett Road. When it was a county school it served grades 1-12. The original structure burned in 1954. The current structure was enlarged in 1958 and at one time held 680 students. When the District saw that it was to take over the school because the county organization was to be dissolved, it planned ahead and built Skaith Elementary to the east in order to split the large enrollment. The present building has 17 classrooms along with a gym, office, cafeteria, and library.



## ROBIDOUX MIDDLE SCHOOL



With the adoption of the new middle school plan in 1968, it was necessary to establish new plants. In the fall of 1971, this school was opened to serve the students of the North End of town. During its first two years of existence, the school was located in the abandoned Washington Building while awaiting the completion of the new structure. Robidoux Middle School is located at 4242 St. Joseph Avenue at the northwest corner of St. Joseph Avenue and Maxwell Road. From 1933 to 1971, no school carried the name of the city's founder. The name was aptly selected for this new school.

## ROBIDOUX SCHOOL

In 1896, the St. Joseph High School moved to its new location and the building was changed into the Robidoux Grammar School. It was named after the founder of the city. The school board occupied the second floor of the building until 1901 when the District constructed the Downtown Library Building. The structure was located on the southeast corner of 10th and Edmond Streets. In 1908, the building was razed and a new structure was erected on the same spot (Foley, 1976). Eleven years later it was converted into a vocational high school. When it was closed in 1927, it served as an annex to Central High School and as a Junior High School until it was converted into St. Joseph Junior College in 1933.



## **ROBIDOUX POLYTECHNIC HIGH SCHOOL**



Robidoux Polytechnic High School was located at 10th and Edmond and provided vocational education. The aim of this school was to give practical training in commerce and industry. The school remained in operation from 1919-1933. It wasn't until 1944 when Hillyard emerged that a separate building was once again set aside for vocational training at the high school level.

## **ROOSEVELT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**



When Central High School moved to its new location in 1933, its old building was converted into Roosevelt Junior High School. It remained until 1941 when the structure was razed and the students transferred to Bliss Junior High School. As an interesting note, the building was the same minus the tower. It was removed once it became a junior high school.

## SAXTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL

From 1889 until 1900, the District rented a building on the northeast corner of 26th and Frederick. In 1900, the elementary school was abandoned and the students moved into the new Noyes School at 26th and Delaware.



## SECOND COLORED SCHOOL

This school existed in a rented building on the west side of 15th Street between Messanie and Locust Streets. It was established in 1870 and lasted until 1889. When the Bartlett School was complete, all other rented schools were closed.



## SECOND STREET GERMAN-ENGLISH SCHOOL

Students from the 3rd Street German-English School were moved here in 1879. The school was in a rented building located on the northwest corner of Second and Louis Streets until 1882. The land was purchased by the District and the Steinacker School was built in 1884.

## SECOND STREET SCHOOL

This school existed in a rented building located on the corner of 2nd and Isadore Streets from 1879 to 1884. In 1882, the District purchased the building and the land. When the Steinacker School was built in 1884, the District moved its students there and the 2nd Street German-English School moved into this structure where it continued as a private school.



## SECOND WARD SCHOOL



This was one of the three original schools operated by the District. It was opened on April 23, 1860, only to be closed over a year later on May 21, 1861, because of the Civil War. It was re-opened in October of 1864. The school was located on the east side of 12th Street between Francis and Jules Streets. The building itself was abandoned in 1896, but not until it was renamed twice. In 1866, it was called the Third Ward School and in 1867 the name was changed again to the Franklin School.

## SEVENTH STREET SCHOOL



Confusion abounds regarding this school. The reader should refer to the 6th Street School with its many locations to get the full picture. In 1884, the 6th Street School was renamed the 7th Street School. It was a rented building that was located on the west side of 6th Street between Patee and Mary Streets. By 1885, the 7th Street School was moved from 6th Street to 7th Street on the west side between Messanie and Locust Streets where the District rented the Perry Building. The school was expanded in 1888 when a branch was opened up in another rented building located on the south side of Messanie between 7th and 8th Streets (Foley, 1976). Both the school and its branch were closed in 1889 and its students moved to Everett.

## **SHERWOOD SCHOOL**



In 1860, Willis Sherwood secured passage of the act incorporating the St. Joseph School District. In 1904, a four room, two story, brick building was built at 29th and Edmond Street and was named in his honor. Additions were made in 1916, 1935 and 1966. As student enrollment shifted and the building became old, the District found it necessary to close the school in 1982. Students were relocated to Mark Twain and Noyes Schools.

## **SIXTH STREET PRIMARY**

This school was established in 1869 in a rented room located on the west side of 6th Street between Hickory and Walnut (Foley, 1976). In 1870, it was moved to the southeast corner of 6th and Monterey where Ms. Anna Maxwell served as principal (Polk, 1870). In 1871, the school was moved to 6th Street between Maple and Hickory with Ms. M.W. Edwards as principal (Polk, 1871). The school did not operate from 1872-1873. It re-opened in 1874 at the 1871 location (Polk, 1871). In 1877, it was moved north on 6th Street between Patee and Mary Streets (Foley, 1976). If all of these moves weren't enough to confuse the students, they changed the name in 1877 to the 7th Street School, but left it on 6th Street (Foley, 1976). The reason for all of these moves is that every location was a rented building and no permanent structure was ever established.



## **SKAITH ELEMENTARY**



Skaith Elementary was built in 1965 in anticipation of the Pickett School joining the District. Located at 4701 Schoolside Lane in the Deer Park Addition, it is named for Francis L. Skaith, a well-known principal at Pickett in the mid 1900's. The original building consisted of one long hall with 14 rooms arranged on either side. In 1967, 10 classrooms, a gymnasium and kitchen were added. In 1972, another 11 classrooms were added to the school.

## **SOUTH PARK COLORED SCHOOL**



Although no official park ever existed in this area, the name was used when referring to the area around 18th and Commercial. The District rented a building at 17th and Commercial Streets from 1890 to 1907 (Foley, 1976). The school was closed because of declining enrollment.

## **SOUTH PARK SCHOOL**



In 1888, the District bought the land and erected a permanent structure on this ground. According to the 1922 Strayer Report,

Neither the site nor the building structure at this point is satisfactory to the degree that they may be considered as part of an ultimate desirable elementary plant. For the present, this building should continue to care for elementary school children to care for elementary school children. By the removal of the seventh and eighth grades to a new junior high school, this school will be relieved to such an extent as to eliminate all overcrowding for the present. The future South Park School should be located in the vicinity of Walnut and 23rd Streets since the present site is too near possible manufacturing and commercial development of the future. The many fire hazards in this building should be cared for at the earliest possible moment.

The building was renovated and used until 1972. The closing of the building caused the students to be transferred to the new Parkway School considerably east and north of this location. It was the oldest building in the District when it was closed.

## **SOUTH ST. JOSEPH COLORED SCHOOL**

This school existed for only three years from 1901 to 1904 while the Douglass School was being built. It was located on Beaver Street near King Hill.

## **SOUTH ST. JOSEPH PRIMARY**

This school existed for two years from 1874 until 1876. It was located on Mitchell Avenue between 14th and 15th Streets in what was then the southern part of the city. The school was in a rented building and in 1876 its name was changed to the Mitchell Avenue Primary.



## SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL <sup>I</sup>



This school was originally a part of the Buchanan County School District and was located just southeast of the city limits. The present South Park Christian Academy now occupies this space. It was located on the northeast corner of South 22nd Street and South 11th Street. It was an elementary school through grade 8.

## SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL <sup>II</sup>



When the District annexed the old Spring Garden district, it built a new school to the south at 5802 S. 22nd Street in 1967. It was an elementary school and was changed to a middle school in 1973.

## ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOLS

This was the name for the McKinley School until it was incorporated into the District in 1901. The building was located on the north side of Colorado Street where Pryor ends. The name comes from the area that was annexed in 1899.

## ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL



111 N. Tenth Street (1861)



101 S. Tenth Street (1866)



13th and Olive Street (1900)

In March 1861, the District found it was necessary to open a high school. They rented E.B. Neely's Academy at 111 North 10th Street with Mr. Neely serving as Principal. In June 1861, it was closed because of the Civil War and re-opened in October of 1864.

In 1864, Mr. Neely became the Superintendent of Schools, and in 1866 built a new structure on the southeast corner of 10th and Edmond Streets. John S. Crosby became the principal succeeding Mr. Neely who had served a dual role for two years.

In 1896, the school was moved to Carpenter's Hill on Olive between 13th and 14th Streets. The old structure became the Robidoux. When Benton High School was established in 1907, the name was changed to Central High School (Foley, 1976).

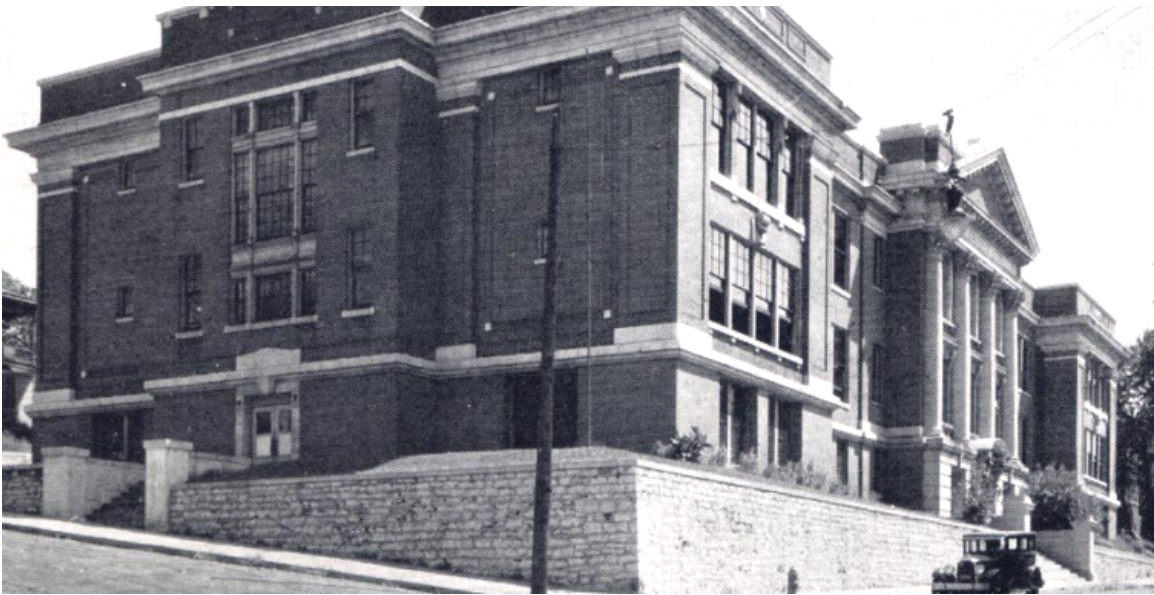
In 1915, twenty-three students occupied an area of the school and became the first class of the new St. Joseph Junior College. As it grew, more space was needed both for the High School and the Junior College. The new Everett School, directly behind it was used from 1928 until 1933 and the Junior College was moved there.

In 1933, when the new structure for Central was built at 26th and Edmond, the High School became Roosevelt Junior High, the Robidoux School was closed, the Junior College moved into that building and Everett was once again an elementary school.

## ST. JOSEPH JUNIOR COLLEGE



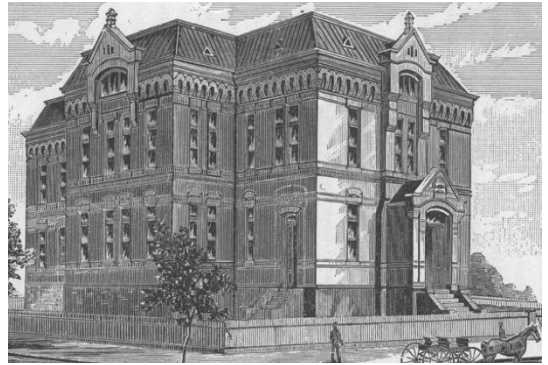
The old Robidoux Polytechnic High School was dissolved in 1933. It was obvious that there was sufficient need in St. Joseph for a two-year college. The structure at 10th and Edmond was then changed for this purpose. The college was actually opened in 1915. It existed in the Everett and Central Buildings until 1933.



In 1933, it was moved to 10th and Edmond. Basic courses in math, science, social studies and English were offered with a few selected electives to satisfy these first two years of college. In 1965, voters affirmed the desire for establishing a four-year college and becoming part of the Missouri College System. Missouri Western State College was born and remained in the building for two years while their new campus was being constructed. From 1933 to 1965, the college was under the jurisdiction of the St. Joseph School District.

## STEINACKER SCHOOL

When the 2nd Street German-English School moved, the District bought the land on the southwest corner of 2nd and Louis Streets. It was built in 1884 and named after Joseph Steinacker, a member of the board of education from 1865 to 1869 (Foley, 1976). The school was abandoned in 1907 and its pupils moved to Humboldt.



## TENTH STREET PRIMARY

When Mr. E.B. Neely's Academy was turned into the High School in 1861, it was obvious that a new structure was needed. This was built one block south and the High School moved there in 1866. That fall, the District used his Academy as a Primary School until 1889. This Structure was located at 111 North 10th Street.



## THIRD COLORED SCHOOL

As the name implies, this was the third school established for the black population of the city. It was located on the east side of 2nd Street, between Isadore and Antoine Streets. It was a rented building during its brief existence from 1871-1873. In 1873, it became the Primary Department of the First colored school.



## THIRD STREET GERMAN-ENGLISH SCHOOL

When the Washington School closed its branch at 3rd and Robidoux Streets, this school was opened. It was a rented building from 1873 to 1879. Then it was moved to 2nd and Isadore Streets to become the 2nd Street German-English School.

## **THIRD STREET PRIMARY**

When the Washington School was moved to its permanent site, the rented building that had housed it became the 3rd Street Primary. It lasted from 1869 to 1873 at 3rd and Isadore Streets. When it was closed it became the 3rd Street German-English School until 1879.

## **THIRD WARD SCHOOL**

This was one of the first three schools in the St. Joseph School District. Like the others (First Ward and Second Ward Schools) it was opened on April 23, 1860 only to close on May 21, 1861, because of the Civil War. It was also re-opened in October 1864.



## **TRUMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL**



The middle school concept arrived in the District in the early 1970's. In 1973, the school formerly known as the Myrtle Miller School closed and was re-opened as Truman Middle School, named after President Harry S. Truman.

## **WALKERS ADDITION SCHOOL**

The District rented a building in 1888 at the northeast corner of 5th Avenue and Savannah Road. In 1891, the District purchased the land and build a permanent structure. In 1894, the name was changed to the Ernst School.

## WASHINGTON SCHOOL

In 1908, the District built a brick structure named after our first President. The school was located at 3rd and Isadore Streets. When enrollment declined in this area, the building was closed. In 1972, its students were divided between Webster and Humboldt. The school was used for two more years as the Robidoux Middle School while their new building was under construction. It was finally abandoned in January of 1974 (Foley, 1976).



## WEBSTER SCHOOL <sup>I</sup>

Webster School was built in 1869 and was named for Daniel Webster. The original building was built at the corner of 17th and Highly Streets. It was two stories with a French style roof. It was extensively remodeled in 1901. Many problems in construction were encountered in an effort to retain the French style of architecture (Strayer, 1922).



## WEBSTER SCHOOL <sup>II</sup>

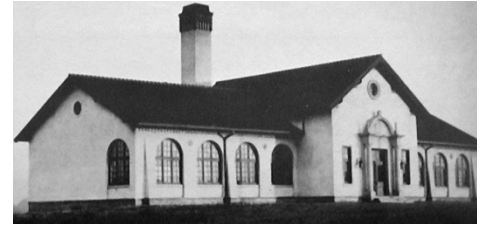
By the end of the 1920's, the District saw the need for an entirely new building. This building was built in front of the old structure and dedicated in September 1931. An addition was added in 1948. The original structure cost \$172,000 and the addition cost \$19,000.





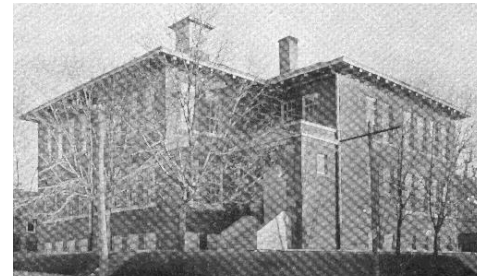
## WHITTIER SCHOOL

This school was built on the northeast corner of 26th and Gene Field Road. It was opened in 1917 and in 1933 its name was changed to Eugene Field School. While the school was under construction, classes were held in a house at 2001 N. 22nd Street. It was a two-room structure that was added on to several times before its name was changed.



## WYATT SCHOOL

The Wyatt School was named in honor of Judge J.J. Wyatt, an early member of the board of education. The structure was located at 11th and Henry Streets. The Strayer Report of 1922 recommended school closure due to inadequate facilities and poor site location. The school was closed in 1930, the building abandoned and the land sold by the District.



## WYATT PARK SCHOOL

In 1888, the District rented a building on the southwest corner of 30th and Olive Streets. In 1894, the land was purchased and a permanent structure was erected. The name was changed at this time to the Bliss School.

## YOUNG SCHOOL

This large and imposing structure stood on the corner of 9th and Mary Streets. It was built in 1889 and named for Waller Young, member of the board of education in 1884 and its president from 1885 to 1891. It was the first school to have a room set aside for a library and Mr. Young himself donated the books. The school was closed and razed in 1993. Its students were sent to Everett and Neely Schools.

